

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 26, 2016 9:50 PM  
**To:** Evans, Ginger; Cooper, Barry (FAA); Drouet, Christina (FAA)  
**Subject:** 27L

WHY ARE YOU USING 27L WITH THE FOLLOWING WEATHER CONDITIONS?!

METAR KORD 270151Z 16004KT 10SM FEW055 SCT230 OVC250 23/18 A2988 RMK AO2  
SLP113 T02280183

**From:** "Cooper, Barry (FAA)" <[Barry.Cooper@faa.gov](mailto:Barry.Cooper@faa.gov)>  
**Date:** May 27, 2016 at 5:32:52 PM CDT  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: 27L

[REDACTED]

You have, on a number of occasions, asked questions specific to runway use and winds on a given day. Each day may generate a slightly different answer, but I'll use your email from last evening as an example response. Earlier last evening, before your message was sent, winds were out of the southwest at approximately 10 knots. That condition dictates use of west flow. Later in the evening, winds diminished (approximately 4 knots) and did change to be slightly from the southeast. That condition would allow for either east or west flow to be used. However, predictions for the early morning had winds expected from the southwest again. At 9:50 PM (the time of your email), FAA Air Traffic was handling a volume of evening traffic that precludes rotating operations from west flow to east flow unless changing wind conditions are significant enough to warrant that change. As that was not the case last night with light winds, and as predicted weather indicated west flow in the early morning, operations remained on west flow throughout last night and into this morning.

It is relevant to point out that, in recent weeks, the airfield has operated more on an east flow configuration than a west flow configuration. Again, wind/weather condition dictate that.

While I know the above information does not resolve your dissatisfaction, I wanted to provide the information to reflect the objective process that drives decisions to use west flow vs. east flow on any given day.

Barry Cooper  
Regional Administrator  
Great Lakes Region  
Federal Aviation Administration